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10/580799

PTO 26 MAY 2006

(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

Mark A. Hixon

(Typed name of person mailing correspondence)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

JOHANNES MENZEL

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Group Art Unit:

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Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the DO/EO/US of  
PCT/EP2004/013491 filed 27 November 2004

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Examiner:

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For: METHOD FOR DISPLACING ACID GAS  
CONSTITUENTS INSIDE A NATURAL  
GAS NETWORK

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Attorney Docket 1-17399

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May 26, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

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### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Sir:

Pursuant to Section 1.97 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and prior to the issuance of a first office action, record is hereby made of information the United States Patent and Trademark Office may wish to consider during examination of the above-entitled application which is being filed concurrently herewith under 35 U.S.C. 371. No representation is made or intended that a prior art search was conducted, or that no better art than that listed is available.

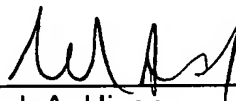
APR 20 2006 20 MAY 2006

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is required for consideration of this IDS.

Patent documents DE 102 19 900 A1 (corresponding to US2006067875), EP 0 279 494 A2 (corresponding to US 4,824,452), EP 0 920 901 A2 (corresponding to US 6,102,987), and US 4,395,385 were all cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding International Application. A copy of the International Search Report, along with its English translation, which serves as a statement of relevance for any non-English references above, is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are enclosed herewith, along with Form PTO/SB/08A. It is requested that they be fully considered and made of record in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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Sheet	1	of	1
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/580799
Filing Date	10/580799
First Named Inventor	Johannes Menzel
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	1-17399

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		DE 102 19 900 A1	11-20-2003	Koss et al	corrsp US20060067875	
		EP 0 279 494 B1	05-26-1993	Gruenewald et al	corresp US 4,824,452	
		EP 0 920 901 B1	06-09-1999	Gross et al	corresp US 6,102,987	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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